

according to item 1, the labeled protein according to item 2, the labeled partial peptide according to item 6 or a labeled salt thereof and a test compound are contacted with a membrane fraction of cells expressing the protein according to item 17 or a salt thereof, activin receptors or activin intracellular information transmission molecules, by measuring the amount of the protein according to item 1, the protein according to item 2, the partial peptide according to item 6 or a salt thereof bound to the membrane fraction of the cells in both the cases,

#### IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 22 as follows:

22. (Amended) A method for screening a compound or a salt thereof inhibiting or promoting a binding of the protein according to claim 1, the protein according to claim 2, the partial peptide according to claim 6 or a salt thereof to the protein according to claim 17 or a salt thereof, activin receptors or activin intracellular information transmission molecules, which comprises comparing the case where the labeled protein according to claim 1, the labeled protein according to claim 2, the labeled partial peptide according to claim 6 or a labeled salt thereof is contacted with a membrane fraction of cells expressing the protein according to claim 17 or a salt thereof, activin receptors or activin intracellular information transmission molecules, with the case where the labeled protein according to claim 1, the labeled protein according to claim 2, the labeled partial peptide according to claim 6 or a labeled salt thereof and a test compound are contacted with a membrane fraction of cells expressing the protein according to claim 17 or a salt thereof, activin receptors or activin intracellular information transmission molecules, by measuring the amount of the protein according to claim 1, the protein according to claim 2, the partial peptide according to claim 6 or a salt thereof bound to the membrane fraction of the cells in both the cases.